CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A cut guide for a portable hand-held saw, the saw having a blade with a cutting portion that is disposed along a generally vertical axis, the cut guide comprising:

a mounting portion that is configured to be coupled to the saw;

a guide block portion that defines a generally vertical cutting stroke axis, the guide block portion being pivotally coupled to the mounting portion such that the cutting stroke axis can be pivoted relative to the cutting portion of the blade;

a guide portion movably coupled to the guide block portion along the cutting stroke axis, the guide portion including an abutment structure with at least one feature for establishing an orientation of the cutting stroke axis relative to a longitudinal axis of a workpiece; and

an adjustment mechanism for pivoting the guide block portion relative to the mounting portion to thereby adjust an angular relationship of the cutting stroke axis relative to the longitudinal axis of the workpiece.

2. The cut guide of Claim 1, wherein the abutment structure includes a first wall that is disposed in a first plane and a second wall that is disposed in a second plane, the first and second planes intersecting one another.

3. The cut guide of Claim 2, wherein the first and second planes are generally perpendicular to one another.

4. The cut guide of Claim 2, wherein one of the first and second planes is disposed in a plane that is generally parallel to the cutting stroke axis.

5. The cut guide of Claim 2, wherein the abutment structure includes a third wall that is disposed in a third plane, the third plane being generally parallel to one of the first and second planes and adjustably spaced apart therefrom.

6. The cut guide of Claim 1, further comprising a clamp coupled to the guide portion, the clamp being adapted for clamping the guide portion to the workpiece.

7. The cut guide of Claim 1, further comprising a return mechanism coupled to the guide portion and at least one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion, the return mechanism being configured to bias the guide portion away from the guide block portion.

8. The cut guide of Claim 1, wherein the return mechanism includes at least one of a fluid lift assist and a spring.

9. The cut guide of Claim 1, wherein the adjustment mechanism includes a threaded member that threadably engages another structure associated with one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion to control the angular relationship of the cutting stroke axis relative to the longitudinal axis of the workpiece.

10. The cut guide of Claim 9, wherein one end of the threaded member is pivotally coupled to one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion.

11. The cut guide of Claim 10, wherein the other one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion includes an adjustment flange and an end of the threaded member opposite the one end extends through the adjustment flange.

12. The cut guide of Claim 11, wherein the another structure is threadably engaged to the threaded member on a side of the adjustment flange opposite the one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion.

13. The cut guide of Claim 12, wherein the adjustment mechanism further comprises a spring for biasing the guide block portion away from the mounting portion.

14. The cut guide of Claim 13, wherein the spring is carried by the threaded member.

15. The cut guide of Claim 14, wherein the spring is disposed on the threaded member between the adjustment flange and the other one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion.

16. A portable hand-held saw comprising:

a blade having a cutting portion that is disposed along an axis;

a saw body having a housing and a motor that is disposed in the housing, the motor being configured to move the blade; and

a cut guide coupled to the housing, the cut guide including a mounting portion, a guide block portion and a guide portion, the mounting portion being configured to couple the cut guide to the housing of the saw body, the guide block portion defining a generally vertical cutting stroke axis, the guide block portion being pivotally coupled to the mounting portion such that the cutting stroke axis can be pivoted relative to the cutting portion of the blade to thereby permit an angular relationship of the cutting stroke axis relative to the longitudinal axis of the workpiece to be adjusted, the guide portion being movably coupled to the guide block portion along the cutting stroke axis, the guide portion including an abutment structure with at least one feature for establishing an orientation of the cutting stroke axis relative to a longitudinal axis of a workpiece.

17. The saw of Claim 16, wherein the saw body is a band saw.

18. The saw of Claim 16, wherein the blade is an endless loop.

19. The saw of Claim 16, wherein the cut guide further comprises an adjustment mechanism for selectively controlling an amount by which the guide block portion is pivoted relative to the mounting portion.

20. The saw of Claim 19, wherein the adjustment mechanism includes a threaded member that threadably engages another structure associated with one of the mounting portion and the guide block portion to control the angular relationship of the cutting stroke axis relative to the longitudinal axis of the workpiece.